

83-0 U.N. Vote Asks Nuclear Treaty Talks

Post 11/4/61

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., and the Soviet Union have submitted proposed treaties. Nov. 8 (AP) — The United States and the Soviet Union joined today in an overwhelming vote in the General Assembly's main political committee favoring a quick resumption of negotiations in Geneva on a treaty to halt the spread of nuclear weapons.

Of the major powers only France abstained in the 83-0 vote for the compromise resolution, which asked the reconvening of the 17-nation disarmament body in Geneva for urgent consideration of an agreement without loopholes to prevent an increase in the "nuclear club." Five other countries abstained.

Despite the unity in the ballot, statements by the Soviet and U.S. delegates afterward showed both sides still far apart on an actual treaty. The key difference involves nuclear arrangements within the Atlantic Alliance.

With the specter of Red China's newly acquired nuclear potential casting a shadow over the international scene, both the United States

Soviet Ambassador Nikolai T. Fedorenko charged the United States with putting the military needs of NATO above almost worldwide desire for agreement on a treaty.

William C. Foster, chief U.S. disarmament negotiator, said the United States would go back to Geneva with "renewed determination" to achieve agreement, reiterating the contention that the treaty proposed by the United States contained no loopholes giving NATO members access to U.S. nuclear warheads.

The eight nonaligned nations in the Geneva negotiations framed the resolution to bridge two rival resolutions put forward in the committee by the two major powers.

The Soviet Union sought General Assembly endorsement of its proposed treaty before any resumption of talks in Geneva. The United States asked for an early re-

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turn to Geneva without insisting on acceptance of its treaty.

The Soviet draft would block the proposed multilateral nuclear force (MLF) or similar arrangements under NATO by which the Russians contend West Germany would have access to or control of U.S. nuclear warheads.

To win Russian support, sponsors of the resolution inserted a provision saying that any treaty banning the spread of nuclear weapons would be void if it contained any "loopholes which might permit nuclear or non-nuclear powers to proliferate, directly or indirectly, nuclear weapons in any form."

Supported by U.S.

Foster said the United States supported this clause, explaining "we agree that there should be no loopholes and the United States draft treaty permits none."

Fedorenko insisted the U.S. treaty would leave the door

open for the acquisition of nuclear weapons through NATO by West German "revengers."

The resolution also urged the Geneva negotiators to place an acceptable balance of responsibilities on nuclear and non-nuclear powers and not interfere with the right of any group of states to con-

clude regional denuclearization agreement. France, Rumania, Cuba, Guinea, Mali and Pakistan abstained. France has consistently boycotted the Geneva negotiations since they began in 1960. Red China is not a member of the Geneva group, which is expected to resume work early next year.